



State of North Carolina  
Department of Health and Human Services

For Release: Immediate  
Contact: Phil Protz 919-855-3567

Date: April 10, 2012

---

**Public Notice**

**Input sought from clients, families, public for vocational rehabilitation plan**

RALEIGH – The N.C. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR), which provides counseling, training, education, transportation, job placement and other support services to people with physical, psychiatric or intellectual disabilities, is seeking public input through a series of meetings to help update the state plan for delivery of its services. The plan, updated annually, will become effective Oct. 1.

All public meetings are held 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the following locations on the dates indicated:

- **Jacksonville**, May 2, Jacksonville Public Library, Main Branch, 58 Doris Ave. East; phone: 910-455-7350.
- **Greenville**, May 3, Pitt County Public Library, Carver Branch, 618 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave.; phone 252-329-4583.
- **Morganton**, May 7, WorkSource West, 200 Enola Road; phone: 828-433-2423.
- **Sanford**, May 9, Dennis A. Wicker Civic Center, Room 103, 1801 Nash St.; phone: 919-776-0345.
- **Statesville**, May 14, Mitchell Community College, Technology & Workforce Development Building, Room 205, 701 W. Front St., phone 704-878-3224.

In addition to the general public, those who may find the meetings of particular interest are people who receive agency services and their families, those who work in human services programs; advocates for people with disabilities and potential employers of people with disabilities.

Topics of discussion may include, but are not limited to:

- Strategies to improve outreach to underserved populations and disability groups
- Priorities that individuals with disabilities would like the public VR program to address
- Eliminating barriers to participation by individuals with disabilities in the VR program and in the state's supported-employment program
- The responsiveness of VR services to its consumers
- Improving VR services to high-school students with disabilities.

Attendees may register to speak upon arrival at the meetings or in advance by calling Alma Atkinson at (919)855-3530. Speakers are encouraged to bring a written copy of their comments. People who are unable to attend one of the meetings may provide input by sending written comments by June 1 to Phil Protz, 2801 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2801, Attn: Planning Unit-State Plan Comments.

Comments may also be e-mailed to [dvr.m.stateplan@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:dvr.m.stateplan@dhhs.nc.gov) or faxed to: State Plan Comments at (919)715-1050. The current state plan is available at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dvrs/stateplan.htm>.

The scheduled meeting locations are accessible to people with disabilities. Sign-language interpreters will be present. If you plan to attend and need other accommodations, please contact Ms. Atkinson at (919) 855-3530 by April 20. For additional information, contact Phil Protz at (919)855-3567 or e-mail [Phil.Protz@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Phil.Protz@dhhs.nc.gov).

# # #

